

Appl. No. 10/710,263
Amdt. dated July 20, 2006
Reply to Office action of May 25, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 5, 10, and 14 are currently amended. Claims 4 and 13 are cancelled.

Listing of Claims:

- 5 Claim 1 (currently amended): A self-positioning guard of a printer comprising:
a cover for blocking an access opening of the printer, wherein the access opening is
used for delivering a sheet of print paper; and
a motorized positioning apparatus coupled to the cover for controlling movement of
the cover;
10 wherein the positioning apparatus controls the cover to not block the access opening
if the printer is printing.

- Claim 2 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises:
a plate for blocking the access opening; and
15 a hinge coupled to the plate for allowing the plate to pivot away from the access
opening.

- Claim 3 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 2 wherein the positioning
apparatus drives the plate to swing via the hinge for controlling movement of the
20 cover.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

- Claim 5 (currently amended): The self-positioning guard of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 2 wherein the
25 access opening is a paper-feeding entry positioned on a housing of the printer or a
paper-ejecting exit positioned on the housing of the printer.

Appl. No. 10/710,263
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Claim 6 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 1 wherein the positioning
apparatus comprises:
a motor for supplying a rotational motion; and
a Scotch yoke coupled to the motor for converting the rotational motion into a linear
5 motion for moving the cover.

Claim 7 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 6 wherein the Scotch yoke
comprises:
an arm for moving the cover; and
10 a disc coupled to the arm and the motor for transforming the rotational motion into
the linear motion.

Claim 8 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 1 being applied to a dye diffusion
thermal transfer printer.

15 Claim 9 (original): The self-positioning guard of claim 1 being positioned inside a
housing of the printer.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A printer comprising:
20 a housing having an access opening;
a cover for blocking an access opening, wherein the access opening is used for
delivering a sheet of print paper; and
a motorized positioning apparatus coupled to the cover for controlling movement of
the cover;
25 wherein the positioning apparatus controls the cover to not block the access opening
if the printer is printing.

Claim 11 (original): The printer of claim 10 wherein the cover comprises:

Appl. No. 10/710,263
Amdt. dated July 20, 2006
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a plate for blocking the access opening; and
a hinge coupled to the plate for allowing the plate to pivot away from the access opening.

- 5 Claim 12 (original): The printer of claim 11 wherein the positioning apparatus drives the plate to swing via the hinge for controlling movement of the cover.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

- 10 Claim 14 (currently amended): The printer of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 11 wherein the access opening is a paper-feeding entry or a paper-ejecting exit.

- Claim 15 (original): The printer of claim 10 wherein the positioning apparatus comprises:
a motor for supplying a rotational motion; and
15 a Scotch yoke coupled to the motor for converting the rotational motion into a linear motion for moving the cover.

- Claim 16 (original): The printer of claim 15 wherein the Scotch yoke comprises:
an arm for moving the cover; and
20 a disc coupled to the arm and the motor for transforming the rotational motion into the linear motion.

Claim 17 (original): The printer of claim 10 being a dye diffusion thermal transfer printer.

- 25 Claim 18 (original): The printer of claim 10 wherein the positioning apparatus is positioned inside the housing.